

# COMPONENTS OF EFFECTIVE SERVICE PROJECTS

## 1. Preparation

Must be done thoroughly and well in advance of the project.

## 2. Serve

There are three types of service:

**Direct** – requires personal contact with people in need. This is the most rewarding because of immediate feedback. Examples are visiting at nursing homes and Sidewalk Sunday School.

**Indirect** – the easiest to organize (e.g., Can Drive).

**Advocacy** – lending voices to solve a community problem (tutoring small children, cleaning up the city park, adopting a stream, Relay for Life).

## 3. Reflection

- Enables students to think critically about the service they have done. Quality reflection must be an intentional ongoing process.
- Modes: journaling and debriefing experiences
- “The goal of reflection is to help students consider the connection between what they learn and how they live” (Boyer).

## 4. Celebration

Experiencing rewards together.

Giving recognition and finding a way to say “thank you.”

Reviewing the experience through pictures and video.